

Serial No.

RD-27,308-6

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
deposited with the United States Postal Service as
first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231 on

(Date of Deposit)

Signature

(Date of Signature)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Frederic Joseph Klug et al.

: Group Art Unit:

Serial No.:

: Examiner:

Filed:

: Paper No.: 1

For: METHOD FOR REMOVING VOLATILE
COMPONENTS FROM A GEL-CAST
CERAMIC ARTICLE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Director of Patents and Trademarks
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, DC 20231

**"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING
LABEL NUMBER**

EL 807644965-US

Sir:

Please amend the Continuation-In-Part application, submitted herewith, of
Application Serial No. 09/499,121, filed February 7, 2000, as follows.

If any additional fees for the accompanying response are required, Applicants
request that this be considered a petition therefor. The Director is hereby authorized to
charge any fees that may be required to Deposit Account 07-0868.

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 15-17, without prejudice.

REMARKS

Applicants have submitted herewith a Continuation-In-Part of Application Serial No. 09/499,121, filed February 7, 2000, and respectfully request that the accompanying Preliminary Amendment be entered. Claims 15-17 have been canceled, without prejudice. As such, Claims 1-14 and 18-28 remain in the case.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicants' counsel at the number provided below in order to resolve any outstanding issues concerning the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert P. Santandrea

Counsel for Applicants

Registration No. 45,072

Telephone: (518) 387-6304 or
(518) 387-7122

Schenectady, New York

February 5, 2002